

The Jacob Journal

A Newsletter from Supervisor Dianne Jacob

March 2000

CRACKING THE AREA CODE CRISIS

Serving the Cities of :

El Cajon
La Mesa
Lemon Grove
Poway
Santee

Serving the
communities of:

Agua Caliente
Allied Gardens
Alpine
Barrett
Blossom Valley
Bostonia
Boulevard
Campo
Canebrake
Casa de Oro
Crest
Cuyamaca
Dehesa
Del Cerro
Descanso
Dulzura
Eucalyptus Hills
Fernbrook
Flinn Springs
Granite Hills
Grantville
Guatay
Harbison Canyon
Jacumba
Jamul
Julian
Lake Morena
Lakeside
Mount Helix
Pine Hills
Pine Valley
Portrero
Ramona
Ranch San Diego
Rolando
San Carlos
San Pasqual
Santa Ysabel
Shelter Valley
Spring Valley
Tecate
Tierra del Sol
Vallecitos

Serving the Indian
Reservations of:

Barona
Campo
Cosmit
Cuyapaipe
Inaja
Jamul
La Posta
Manzanita
Mesa Grande
Santa Ysabel
Sycuan
Viejas

619, 760, 858, and 935, 442 on the horizon... Who can keep them all straight? It's not only difficult and frustrating - but, also unnecessary.

How did we get here when not too long ago, San Diego had only one area code? We now have three, with two more slated for implementation this year; 935 in east county and south bay, and 442 in the north coastal region. It's anticipated that the State's current 25 area codes will leap to 41 by the end of 2002!

This is unnecessary and we're fighting to stop any new area codes from coming to this region.

On February 9, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved my proposal to join with other local governments and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to work with our State and Federal legislators to do three things: Require the FCC to grant waivers to allow for technology specific area codes for devices such as cell phones and pagers; shorten the deadline requiring the availability of local number portability which would allow wireless users to transport their

numbers to new providers without changing their phone numbers; and immediate release of the enormous stockpile of unused phone numbers.

There are as many as 145 million unused phone numbers within existing area codes in this state. (*North County Times*, January 13, 2000) There are 23.4 million phone numbers in San Diego County. Let's do the math. There are approximately 7.8 million phone numbers for each area code. With three existing area codes, that equals the 23.4 million phone numbers in San Diego County. And, with about 2.7 million people living in this region - this equates to about 8.7 phone numbers for every man, woman and child!

Unfortunately, the fact that there are millions of unused telephone numbers that could alleviate the need for new area codes has been lost in the debate over the imposition of the controversial new 858 area code. And, overlays are not a solution - they are only adding to the problem by forcing **all** consumers to dial 11 digits. This is cumbersome and unnecessary. I say, it is time to stop punishing the consumer!

The time to take action is now. By working with other local governments and the CPUC, I am hopeful that we can crack the area code crisis and prevent any new and unnecessary area codes from coming to our region.



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WWW.DIANNEJACOB.COM

FIGHTING TO BRING TRANSPORTATION DOLLARS HOME

With millions of San Diego's taxes and fees leaving this region, drivers are faced with unnecessary freeway gridlock

Under the leadership of Chairwoman Dianne Jacob, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors approved action to pressure the state and federal government to use all transportation-related funds collected from motorists in California for local transportation improvement projects.

"Too much of the money collected from drivers ends up being diverted to projects outside this region and to non-transportation accounts," said Jacob. "Approximately six cents out of every federal gas tax dollar from San Diego County stays in Washington D.C. While that may not sound like much, it could mean \$168 million more for transportation projects in our State. This could be a great help to San Diego," she added.

Only about half of the \$16 billion annual vehicle-related fees and taxes collected at the State level make their way to the State Highway Account.

"This Board has taken action to call on our Federal and State legislators to support efforts to ensure that drivers are getting what they pay for. It's time for government to be more accountable to motorists," said Jacob. "We need to begin to enter into a compact with drivers which ensures them that all taxes and fees they pay will be spent on projects that directly benefit motorists and are not diverted to other non-transportation accounts." Jacob also called on the Governor and legislature to set aside \$1 billion of the anticipated budget surplus for transportation improvement projects. This would mean an additional \$84 million for San Diego County.

If you haven't stopped by my Internet site, WWW.DIANNEJACOB.COM, I invite you to take a peek. For your convenience, I have posted information about County programs as well as proposals that I have brought to the County Board of Supervisors. Also, you can look at previous editions of the Jacob Journal, Press Releases, and *Sites to See* in the Second District. Stop in and say "Hello" !

YOUNGSTERS TO BENEFIT FROM PROP. 10 DOLLARS

Commission Awards more than \$4 Million for Immediate Needs

After receiving input from nearly 1,6000 residents and organizations throughout the region, the San Diego County Children and Families Commission has awarded grants of more than \$4 million to help this region's children.

"These dollars have allowed this region an important opportunity to immediately help our number one asset - this region's children," said Chairwoman of the Commission, Dianne Jacob. "This has truly been a community-wide effort and I look forward to seeing many positive benefits."

The California Children and Families Act was passed by voters in November 1998. This statewide initiative added a 50-cents per pack tax to cigarettes. Statewide, \$700 million has been collected in the first year. San Diego County has received approximately \$40 million.

The San Diego County Children and Families Commission was established to implement the act on a local level. After hundreds of hours spent gathering community input, earlier this month the commission became the third County in the state to adopt and approve the *ALL 4 Kids* Strategic Plan, which reflects the needs of children and families in the San Diego region.

Grants were awarded to the following:

- Anderson Center for Dental in an amount up to \$150,000 to provide oral health screenings.
- Partnerships for Smoke-Free Families in an amount up to \$100,000 to expand intervention to community health sites and other birthing hospitals.
- Licensed child care center and homes in an amount up to \$4,000,000 as general purpose grants.

"This is just the beginning of our plan to ensure that children are born healthy and remain healthy," said Jacob. "There are approximately 267,000 children in San Diego age five and younger. All of them who have a need should benefit from these dollars," she added.

Join me for Coffee and Conversation...

Thursday, March 30, 2000, 8:30 to 10:30am

Kountry Kitchen
826 Main Street, Ramona

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We hope to hear from you soon!

March/00

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